

# WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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## Monopoly.

Sydney "Daily Telegraph" insinuated recently that there was not brains enough in the ranks of the workers to run any business concern.

O listen to the plute-owned press,  
It gives a man the blues  
To read such wishy-washy stuff  
They dote to us as news.

When we wage-slaves seem quite content  
And never think of striking,  
O how they pat us on the back,  
You see that's to their liking.

To labor is so dignified,  
To strike is utter madness;  
It brings such loss unto the state,  
And causes so much sadness.

But when the trod ten worn cloth turn  
Against the crushing boot,  
"He's broke the law," the press cries out,  
"And we must prosecute."

And now, although Fat owns the earth,  
And all above, or under,  
"You Socialists," the plute press says,  
"Are making one big blunder."

You cannot run the wheels of trade  
Without our guiding hands,  
To plow and sow, and reap you need  
Our brains as well as land.

We know they've "cornered" all things good  
And bound us in their chains,  
But now we learn, vide daily press,  
They've also "cornered" brains.

Now, when the last dread trump shall sound,  
And all bid earth farewell,  
I wonder if that chosen few  
Will "corner" aught in Hell?

Clifton.

J. G. MAY.

## The Passing Show.

Capitalism is very considerate and though it denies woman the ballot it never refuses her a billet.

Capitalism prays for the workers in its churches while it preys on them in its factories.

Capitalists take great interest in the workers because of the interest they can get out of them.

Many people say, "Socialism will never work." What they should say is, "Capitalists will never work."

There is a vice Trust in New York which is said to yield immense dividends. No capitalistic country in the world possesses a virtue Trust. The reason is that under Capitalism virtue does not pay.

The Australian worker has the ballot and the power to make laws, but the plute has the High Court to upset them.

The landlords say that the workers should love their country, and be prepared to fight for the privilege of paying rent in it.

The farmer reaps the corn, but the landlord bags it.

Dr. Mawson, the Antarctic explorer, is having more trouble down South. His wireless apparatus has been going wrong, and his friends at this end have been alarmed. They should have no fear, however, for the worthy man is well looked after. When away from his base not long ago, he lost his companions, his dogs, and most of his food on the way back. "I alone arrived at the hut," he says, "having travelled through snow and fogs, miraculously guided by Providence, through heavily crevassed areas." Providence was evidently creating an opportunity for Dr. Mawson to specially distinguish himself when Lieutenant Ninnis was allowed to vanish with a dog team and the tucker down one of the crevasses.

The snarling of French and German militarists has given the Kaiser another opportunity to remind his people of the "Divine Providence" of 1870. He prophesies that if the German people will stand £50,000,000 of fresh war taxation, God will smash the French absolutely. Why the cash should be needed to supplement the divine assistance Willie doesn't explain.

Wingen Abbot asks Rev. A. Rivett what is the difference between the act of a policeman when he shoots a burglar or a



The Intelligent Voter at the Political Fingerpost.

Adapted from "Moonshine" by William R. Winespear, 115 Goulburn-St., Sydney.

bush-ranger, and the act of a soldier who shoots an invading enemy, or one who threatens invasion and robbery? There would, as Mr. Abbott says, be no difference. Both would be engaged in protecting the Capitalist's life and property. And if during a strike, a policeman applied his baton to a worker's skull, and a soldier ripped another open with his bayonet, there would be no difference between their acts, both would be defending the Capitalist's interests. But why should the worker train to do the work of the policeman and the soldier?

The King of Montenegro said that he captured Scutari "with God's help," but the powers are telling him that he will have to get out, and in spite of the Montenegrin deity it looks as if he will have to go.

Rev. Valance Cook, a visiting evangelist, told a city audience of an experience he had with Socialists before he left England. They invited him to address their meeting, stipulating that they should have the right to question him for the same length of time as he spoke. He accepted, and in order that they should not have much time to question him, he spoke for 85 minutes—commencing at 8.30 p.m. In England, Mr. Cooke explained, people did not like a long sermon, but the Socialists didn't want it short, and when he had finished they put questions to him for 85 minutes. He believed they would have been questioning him still if he had let them. One thing about that socialistic gathering he deplored. There were 12 hymns on the song-sheet, and the name of God did not appear once. Nor did the name of Jesus Christ. There was no mention of sin, heaven, hell, or eternity. What were they singing about? About a brighter and better day that was coming. They believed a great and glorious time was looming ahead.

The Rev. gentleman's attempt to dodge questions is characteristic of anti-socialists. They like the workers to swallow large doses of tergiversation and prevarication without doubt or questioning.

"Any cadet absent from this parade will be prosecuted," was the announcement issued by the military authorities, and widely published by the daily press, prior to May 3. It was pure bluff, because the militarists have no legal power to prosecute a cadet for not attending a special parade. But with a rotten and silent press, rotten laws, magistrates, and public opinion, anything is possible in the way of coercion.

Labor papers rejoice at the disclosure of Liberals whenever W. M. Hughes reels off a list of top-notch billets filled by the Fisher ministry, showing that no Labor supporter gets any of the spoils of office. If Mr. Hughes's list were a true bill, it ought to show Laborites that Fisher and Co. believe a good deal in Liberal administration. Liberals charge Laborites with stealing their proposals,

passing them into laws and appointing Labor men to administer them; and the Laborites reply by showing that they always appoint Liberal administrators.

An old miner of Tighe's Hill, near Newcastle, N.S.W., probably holds a world's record. His name is Charles Francis, and he is 75 years of age, still working in the pit, and has been engaged in coal mining for 62 years. The old chap has worked 20 years for himself and 42 for his masters, yet there are people about who contend that miners are a discontented lot with no cause whatsoever for complaint.

Preaching in the Newcastle Cathedral on a recent Sunday evening, Dr. Golding Bird spoke strongly in favour of Conscription. He said that "individuals were bound to love their enemies, but an inductive argument that nations should meekly suffer wrong could not be adduced logically from this. War must be looked upon as an evil, truly, but as things were, as a necessary evil." According to the Dean, we are bound to love our enemies as individuals, and when smitten on the one cheek turn the other to be smitten, but as a nation we must love our enemies with the galling and the bayonet. The teachings of Jesus are only to hold good within our national boundaries. Towards outsiders, war to the knife.

Mr. Justice Lush, who sentenced Mrs. Pankhurst and other suffragettes for attempting to hold meetings at Trowbridge (Eng.), was pelted with rotten oranges, eggs, bags of flour, and cabbages. The "ladies" are showing less respect for exalted persons than are the workers, who have much greater cause for revolt.

One of the terms of settlement of the South Coast miners' strike is "That no men be victimised by employers or employees in respect of any action in connection with the present dispute." Apart from the fact that the employees are victimised and robbed every day they work for a master, the claim will be still-born and lifeless, for under the wage system victimisation is a fundamental principle. The man who owns another man's job cannot resist the temptation to victimise him if he claims any right which the owner of the job thinks he should not claim. While the wage system lasts, and one man employs another to make profit for him, victimisation will be a common practice. Only Socialism will abolish it.

N.S. Wales Railway Commissioners evicted a woman and four children from a hovel at Pyrmont on April 23. The family got notice to quit three weeks ago, and the woman has scoured the suburbs daily in a fruitless search for a house. The Railway Commissioners are the servants of the State and the Labor Party is fond of citing the railways as a Socialist institution, but evictions under the system prove that it has nothing in common

with Socialism. Under Socialism there will be no evictions. Evictions are peculiar to capitalism.

Interviewed by members of the Empire Trade Commission, N.S. Wales Minister for Works, Arthur Griffith, said that "the Australian States had no public debt," as all the borrowed money had been sunk in reproductive public works. According to the Minister, all the politicians have done is to borrow money from European financiers, build up railways and other reproductive works, work them to make profits, and send the same to the gentlemen who issued the pawn-tickets. If you ask where the workers "come in," the answer is easy—don't they get the job of making the profit for politicians' uncle in Europe?

An American reporter recently described King Nicholas of Montenegro as a simple old mountaineer, and one of the heroes of the Balkan war. The American pretended that he had interviewed Nicholas sitting in the back yard assisting the Queen and Princess to peel potatoes for the next frugal meal. When the war broke out the King led his small but courageous army against the "despicable" Turk, and proceeded to spread the blessings of Christianity in a land long befouled by the heathen moslem. As the war proceeded Nicholas's financial operations became known and he stood revealed as one of the most brutal pirates that ever used mauling for his personal profit. Instead of being the homely old potato peeler, Nicholas was found to be a consummate and cunning financier who had fixed up certain contracts in the European Bourses and then precipitated the war by leading his dupes into Albania. His first haul on the Budapest Bourse amounted to a solid million pounds and similar amounts have to go his way from several countries. The royal butcher coolly sacrificed the bulk of his country's population to fill his own pockets.

The Conscriptionist Ministry has extended the sphere of its operations towards the "physical training" of girls, and is establishing a school of instruction under the control of military experts in military morality and physical training. It is recognised that each girl may in future be the mother of several boys and have their earliest training under her special care. It is hence highly desirable—from a militarist point of view—that all girls should be strongly inoculated with the virus of militarism and patriotism at as early an age as possible. It is a lovely scheme, and though donkey's would shy at it, the Labor Party support it.

The "moral and physical benefits" of compulsory training under the Conscription Act are beginning to show in the conduct of the boys. Boys will be boys, and they will fire at something when they are given guns and shown how to use them. Residents of Brighton, Victoria, have a list of grievances against the trainees, including the following:—Shooting at large in the main street. Shooting at a tin can on a fence in Marion Street. Shooting at telegraph poles, thereby alarming families having tea in the neighbouring weatherboard houses, the windows of which were broken with bullets. Shooting two horses at Garden Vale. Shooting at a paper target on a fence, and hitting a cow in the neck. The military authorities are being compelled to direct that cadets shall leave their rifles at their drill halls and handle them only when on parade, and at the rifle butts.

The development of Capitalism is rapidly proceeding in Japan. The financial octopus is getting a firm grip of the country, if we may judge by a recent speech of the Finance Minister who declared that Japan was at present in need of not less than £30,000,000. The Government, he added, proposed to raise the money abroad by means of short-term bonds, which would later on be replaced by long-term securities. William R. Winespear, 115 Goulburn Street, Sydney.



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Every child should be taught that the useful are the honourable, and that they who live on the labor of others are the enemies of society. —Ingersoll.

## The Recent Struggle at Broken Hill.

The recent strike at Broken Hill was an object lesson in the power and unscrupulousness of capitalist control and administration. The workers of Broken Hill owned nothing but their labor power in the sale of which they naturally desired to have some say as to price, conditions of labor, and so forth. But the capitalists who were the purchasers of the workers' services resolved that this would not suit them, and as they own the mines and all railroad approaches to the Hill, they were in a position to dictate terms and cut off food supplies, they occupied a strong position in the dispute. When the workers appealed to the Labor Government they got nothing. The Capitalists got more police protection. When the workers threatened to seize the railways and run them to obtain supplies for the city, the capitalists removed portions of the engines and rendered them useless, thus showing the workers that they understand the value of sabotage and have no hesitation in using it when it suits their book. The whole struggle illustrates the futility of hoping for anything from capitalism. The necessity for the substitution of Socialism for Capitalism has seldom been more clearly illustrated than it has been in the Broken Hill struggle, and the pity is that the workers there continue to put their trust in capitalist government and Labor parties. In the long run, however, economic pressure will do its work, and whether they like it or not, they will be driven to join with us who are working to overthrow the system which oppresses them.

## Industrial Unrest World-wide.

Those who know nothing of the world-wide class war that is being waged between the workers and the masters, are prone to regard the so-called industrial unrest as a purely local disturbance. They do not connect the Belgian strike of 190,000 workers and the strikes in Russia, France, England, and America, with the recent strikes in Australia and New Zealand, and are ready to listen to those who talk about the Australian workers as being especially rebellious. The daily press is fond of lecturing upon their folly in sacrificing their wages and driving capital out of the country, or scaring investors away by striking, but they do not explain where Capital can go to and find a working class that is content under Capitalistic conditions. There is industrial unrest everywhere, and as the cost of living goes up and the exploiting class becomes more grasping, strikes become more frequent. Arbitration wages boards, and the petty schemes of politicians to keep the system going, are the expedients of the cunning and the ignorant, and will fail in their object. Everything will fail that falls short of the complete abolition of the system of wage-slavery that is now in vogue. Just as numerous bread riots and strikes preceded the French revolution, so are numerous strikes and riots preceding the social revolution that is now near at hand. The only difference between present indications and those of 1790-6 is that at present the revolt is world-wide, while the French revolution was localized. Those who see the gathering storm should waste no time on political palliatives and expedients, but centre all their energy upon the education of the workers so that the new system may be ushered in as peaceably as may be.

When you have read this paper hand it to a friend.

## Our "Free" Country.

When the Federal Labor Government appointed Mr. Piddington to the High Court, the Bar objected, and the new justice had to resign. Then Mr. Rich was appointed, and the Bar was satisfied; yet we are told that this is a free country, and that the people here rule themselves. It is a lie equal to any invented by the father of lies himself. We are not ruled by the representatives we elect to Parliament, but by the judgments laid down by the High Court judges who are placed on the bench by the legal fraternity acting on behalf of Capital. Not one of these judges owes his position to the working class, and not one of them considers himself under any obligation to that class. The Capitalist class places the judges upon the High Court bench, and in the nature of things these judges are servants of that class. Federal judges not only interpret the laws made by Parliament, but they lay down laws of their own, and set aside those of Parliament when they think fit, or when they are not satisfactory to those whom they serve. Their power is unlimited, and they are in their jobs for life. And this is "freedom" and "representative government." It is a hoax played upon the people, and one which the Socialist Party alone is able to see through. The Socialist Party is the only party that proposes to establish self-rule and freedom.

William R. Winspear, 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.

## The Business Side of Chauvinism.

Dr. Liebknecht, one of the most influential members of the Socialist Party in the Reichstag, has thrown a garish light on some of the methods to which the great manufacturing concerns that earn their profits by turning out war material resort to in order to procure business. He alleges that the great armament manufacturing firm of Krupp, and also the manufacturers of Mauser rifles, have resorted to illicit methods for inducing the leading organs of the French press to create an anti-German sentiment with the object of facilitating the increase of German armaments. This suggests, in other words, that German makers of guns, rifles, and armour-plate are in the habit of bribing French editors to publish articles stirring up French animosity against Germany in order that the Government may receive popular support for its policy of ordering more guns, rifles, and armour-plate from the makers. A more diabolical and atrocious scheme for making money can hardly be imagined. The Socialist leader also accuses Krupp's firm of corrupting the officials of the Prussian War Office in order to get early information about contracts. And all that the Minister for War can say is that the matter has been "greatly exaggerated," and that an investigation is now proceeding. It is no concern of other nations whether German business men bribe German officers or not in order to secure special advantages. Unfortunately, such incidents occur in other countries beside Germany. The Crimean war and the South African war provided so many instances of the same kind of thing that Britons cannot throw stones at Germans with regard to it. But the plan of inducing French journalists to stir up hatred against the Germans, in order that the German masses may be compelled to spend more of their money on weapons destined to add to the slaughter of the battlefields of the future, is a refinement of devilish ingenuity that arrests attention. Probably the recent incident at Nancy, where German officers were hounded by French hoodlums in a theatre, is being industriously exaggerated in various journals, egged on by the armament manufacturers in order that huge new orders may be given for bullets and bayonets. War against a traditional oppressor—as in the case of the war of the Balkan States against Turkey—is intelligible, and even justifiable. Even a war for the acquisition of territory necessary for the expansion of an overcrowded country, or in defence of that rare abstraction, the "national honor," may have something to be said for it. But who can justify a war promoted for the purpose of providing fresh profits for business men who have already made vast fortunes out of the sale of guns and bayonets? A battlefield under modern conditions must be terrible, an appalling sight. That such a hell of human agony should be prepared in order to put dividends into the pockets of a few manufacturing firms is a strange commentary of modern "culture." —"Daily Telegraph."

Every new subscriber you get for "The International Socialist" is a blow struck at Capitalism.

## Some Amusing Views.

BY UNCONSCIOUS HUMORISTS.

"Penny postage is not a great democratic reform, but it is a great boon to the commercial classes. That it should have been conferred upon Australia by a Labor Government is further proof of the falsity of the oft-repeated sneer of the Fusionists that Labor serves only one class. Labor strives to act fairly to all."

—Hector Lamond.

And they fail.

"There is a large amount of printed filth to be found in this and other Australian cities which does not need to be analysed by an expert. It can almost be smelt."—Sydney "Daily Telegraph."

What a confession!

"This is the last time that I shall run for politics. As a matter of fact, I went in for politics for amusement, after I made what hoodle I wanted."—King O'Malley, Labor Minister for Home Affairs.

From hoddler to Labor Minister.

"These gentlemen (Labor candidates), are after votes to enable them to secure the plums of office."—G. G. Wade, State Opposition Leader of N.S.W. Parliament.

Mr. Wade himself scorns office plums.

"As a rule, articles published in the newspapers are pretty close up to what the people think is right. To not have a free press is to be not British."

—Agar Wynne.

What certain people think is right.

"The basic principle of the Liberal Party is to secure an equal opportunity to all people in the community, so that they may make the fullest use of the gifts with which nature has endowed them."

—W. H. Irvine, M.H.R.

After the landlord you shall be first.

"The Liberal Party of Australia believes in freedom, independence, justice to all, and favoritism to none. It believes in liberty, and not in license to oppress and coerce one's fellow beings."

—Sir John Forrest.

This dose of Liberalism should not be taken literally. In fact it would be safer to take it the other way.

"As a result of Labor Government, instead of continued progress and happiness pervading Australia, they had an increase in the cost of living to the extent of 30 or 40 per cent."—Mr. Donald Doull, Liberal candidate for Cook.

As the increased cost of living is world-wide, the Labor Party has much to answer for—to the Liberals.

"We have no excuse if we have failed to do our duty. We have no excuse if we have not done those things which we ought to have done, and have done those things we ought not to have done."

—Federal Minister Josiah Thomas.

There is no excuse for Conscription.

"It is not only illogical and unfair to complain about the Trusts; it is also very foolish. For the Trust is really a labor-saving device, and the latest and most effective."—W. M. Hughes, writing in defence of Trusts.

"It was in America, where there was no Labor Party, that the Trusts and combines ruled supreme. The government there had become impossible."

"Mr. Cook had said there were no Trusts; but he denied that, and they were asking, under the referendum proposals, for power to deal with them. Illegitimate profits were not right, and if the Labor Party got in they would prevent them. He would tell them of three Trusts, but he could not tell them of all any more than he could tell them of all the burglars and criminals in the country."

"No person had a right to fix their own prices when there was no competition."

"No attempt had been made to prosecute any Trust until the Labor Party had got into power."

"If we get the power to deal with the Trusts under the referendum proposals, we shall protect the interests of the people, and prevent the Trusts getting unfair and illegitimate profits."—W. M. Hughes, attacking the Trusts at Liverpool, April 28.

"Mr. Cook, who was received with applause, mentioned the fact that he was about to tour the whole Continent, and he urged the local Liberals not to be caught napping."—"S.M. Herald's" report of a speech by Joe Cook.

Watch the chicken coops.

"The record of the Labor Government is largely the record of Liberal measures to which they were at some time or other violently opposed. The country was prosperous, but that was due to a kindly

Providence, and not to Mr. Hughes or Mr. Fisher."

—Joe Cook.

A Liberal Providence, of course!

"The pioneers of the interior are entitled to every encouragement."

—C. G. Wade.

Some of them die leaving a small matter of £100,000 or so.

"Just now there is much talk of an amendment of the Constitution per medium of a Referendum. But even if the Referendum proposals are carried, and the new clauses are added to the Constitution, it will rest with Mr. Justice Grump or Mr. Justice Briggs as to their exact scope and meaning, when some interested party named Jenkins thinks he has discovered a flaw, and hires that eminent Counsel Hogg, K.C., with Bounder as his junior, to bring the matter before the Court."

—Bulletin.

The High Court will still interpret the law, and rule.

"They (the Conscriptionists), are taught that there are interests others and bigger than their own, and that they may be called upon to sacrifice themselves for others."

—Rev. Golding Bird.

For their masters, for instance.

## An Open Letter.

To the Members of the Federal Labor Party

"Betrayers of the Working Class." It has fallen to the everlasting disgrace of your party to place this iniquitous law—Compulsory Military Training—on the Statute Book of this country. No other party would have dared to do such a thing. You have betrayed the trust we fool people placed in you. Instead of proving our friends, you have proved yourselves the enemies of liberty. Had the Liberal Party or any other party dared to do this thing, you would have been the first to protest; but now your tongues are silent. You will not even come and debate the matter with any party or person opposed to "Compulsory Military Training." Your silence proves your guilt. Why did you not force Compulsory Military Training on the manhood of the nation (including the professional politicians, instead of the defenceless children? Men have votes, children have not. That is why I write this as a protest on their behalf. Some day they will have votes, and I sincerely hope they will not forget what has been done to them. The working class ought to rise en masse as a protest against such "tyranny." Thousands of workers see the mistake their party have made, but party loyalty keeps them silent. The worker's sons have to work all day piling up profits for the Capitalist "boss," and then be drilled at night to protect his property. Then, if good sense prevails, and they refuse, they are hauled before a capitalist tribunal and fined; and if they refuse to pay, are gaoled. "Shame on you, all!" Is this what we put you in to power for? Your military scheme teems with injustices to the children. They are so numerous it would take sheets of foolscap did I attempt to enumerate them. As a one-time member of the P.L.C., and an ardent worker for the return of the Labor Party, I now feel ashamed of your military scheme. It is useless to the workers. It only means their further enslavement if you do not do something to repeal this Black Statute. I shall try and do all in my power to defeat the candidate in our division at next election.

Written by—

MRS. NICHOLSON.

35 Nicholson St., South Yarra, Melbourne.

9th Nov., 1912.

## THE SORDID RICH.

"Wealth lessens rather than increases human happiness. Millionaires who laugh are rare. The family quarrels which so often afflict the rich generally have their rise in sordid differences about money. The most miserable of men, as old age approaches, are those who have made money-making their god; like flies bound to the wheel, these unfortunates fondly believed that they were driven to it, only to find when tired and craving rest that it is impossible for them to get off, and they are lost—plenty to retire upon, but nothing to retire to, and so they end as they began stewing into nothingness, leaving their money behind for heirs to quarrel over, only because they cannot take it with them."

—Andrew Carnegie.



# Maniacs I have Met.

## The Voter.

Once elected the politician has no time for the voter.

"The majority are always wrong."

—Goethe.

The voter is a person who is entitled to the franchise, that is, once in every three or five years he ballots for individuals who are supposed to represent him in parliament or elsewhere. In our previous essay we have shown that parliament is only a committee of the ruling classes. We will now consider and examine the relation of the elector to these assemblies.

Take Australia, for example, here political conceptions are said to be advanced. We talk loudly of universal suffrage, and majority rule. What does this signify? In the first place, many people are disqualified. Others, for several reasons, cannot do so. Some are too illiterate, and vote informally. There is also a large class of independent or voluntary abstentionists. Indeed, this class is becoming so numerous that the Federal Parliament is trying to force people to vote. Apparently, these people are disgusted with politics; therefore, the Cabinet try to coerce them.

Also, all those who voted for defeated candidates are disfranchised. Therefore, only the successful electors remain. A small minority who talk about majority rule.

At elections certain vote-snatchers representing two factions (almost identical), come before the electors with so-called platform policies. Most of the policy planks will not stand examination. They are too ridiculous to discuss. Moreover, these precious planks are altered, postponed, or dropped whenever expediency dictates, irrespective of the voter's wishes.

Once elected, the alleged representative has no time for the elector. He is no longer their servant; he has become a despot. The voter has practically no redress, neither has he the slightest guarantee that his member will do as required. All the evidence is to the contrary. (In a previous essay we demonstrated that the politician personally is impotent). Thus the voter's choice is strictly limited to individuals. Yet the average elector is proud to exercise the franchise. Did not his forefathers fight hard for this liberty. They did. Being ignorant, they failed to see that political liberty without economic freedom is impotent. Their offspring are more silly. Having greater experience, they not only refuse to face this fact but go on voting. It never dawns on them that the franchise, instead of helping the people, has actually been turned against them, and that so-called universal suffrage is a powerful weapon to keep them mentally asleep.

An election takes place. The voter who has slept quietly in the shadow of political oblivion, wakes up. The plutist press raises a thousand-and-one issues that influence his mind. For a few days people talk politics, even the street boy knows who will get in for so-and-so. Hysterical people, whose knowledge is nil, whose intelligence is less, are seized by the mania, and discuss politics as if they had made a life study of it.

The politician is roaring himself hoarse, while an excited mob gathers to hear the words of wisdom that flow from this prospective saviour. The more obscure and stupid he is, the more they like it. If he is mystical, it fills them with awe. A few cheap sneers, some vulgar jokes, and plenty of abuse, tickles his fancy of the ignorant. The politician panders to prejudice, and poses as a second David going to slay Goliath. The crowd become obfuscated. They yell, roar, clap, and cheer their hero on. When the sectarian fever is at its height the candidate concludes with a pathetic and flattering appeal for votes. He calls them enlightened and intelligent electors, well knowing that they are mostly mental mugs.

Crowds of canvassers are active; the press is full of political piffle, while the rival factions carry on a vigorous campaign of vituperation. The air is full of rumours, noisy speakers rave and hold forth ideas fit to stuff credulity to bursting point.

The unthinking voter swallows it all, and, like Oliver Twist, comes back for more. He hopes that his man will win. Jones, the grocer, supports the other party. He will try and convert him. Jones raises awkward questions, but he managed to prove to his own satisfaction that his man was a shade better than Jones's

representative. Found Jones very obstinate; decided not to deal with him again. Felt inclined to knock him down. And so the gullible voter goes on, having become a prey to the political prejudice.

In New South Wales there is a peculiar kind of voter called the trade unionist. Unions have spent thousands of pounds and many years of electioneering, to put a political party in power. The party betrays them all along the line. But it was largely made of union men. It is branded Labor. That is sufficient; the voter refuses to reason further.

One would have thought that if these individuals placed so much reliance on politics, after wandering 20 years in the wilderness of superstition, and having enthroned the idols on the Treasury benches, they would endeavour to reap the harvest. But no; the cry is, "Don't do anything that might lose votes for the Labour party. Wait till they get a bigger majority." After all this waiting, voting, what not, the unions are still chasing this political Will O' the Wisp. The unionist fails to see that the politician cannot reconcile Capital and Labour, and is taking advantage of the voter's credulity for self and pelf. This confiding faith also implies that the unionist is silly enough to allow men with capitalistic minds to boss his unions, and therefore jumps to the conclusion that the Capitalists will let him boss their Parliament House. Could anything be more childish? As a matter of fact, there are special safeguards to stop any law injurious to vested interests. In most countries the Speaker has secret orders to clear the House at the point of the bayonet should any revolutionary law by chance, pass the House. This has been done in England and France, and doubtless would be resorted to in Australia.

It is humorous to note how landless, brainless voters get tangled mentally over the question of leasehold v. freehold. Stonybrooke electors discuss vaguely financial bills, while State frights and Federal wrongs (a parochial prejudice), drives them crazy. They become very angry over sectarian issues. This is natural, theology and politics are closely interwoven, and it may be safely said of both of them, that there is hardly a doctrine or law put forward by one set of theologians or politicians, that has not been torn to tatters by partisans of the opposite school.

The election hour over, the electors go to work next morning, and toil and wait for the political heaven. They are in exactly the same position whoever gets in. It does not seem to dawn upon the deluded that (if individuals count for anything) changes in the workshop are more important than changes in Parliament. Whether the House is sitting or in recess, or our representatives are at the Coronation Crawl, the country goes on just the same, provided workers keep their noses to the grindstones. The voter wouldn't know if it wasn't for the papers, what his candidate was doing. His representative exists in his imagination; yet the voter still has faith born of credulity, ignorance, that in some mysterious way, all the muddle, chaos, and charlatanism, so closely associated with politics, will evolve some good. He is waiting for a political Messiah. He never stops to reason that even if some saviour could lead him out, he can be led back again. He is obsessed by the idea of voting. The plutist parasites encourage him, well knowing that if he votes till he is black in the face it makes no difference.

The history of politics is one long record of failure. The voter refuses to believe it. He has never attempted to analyse the theory of politics. He blindly believes in bogeys and political absurdities, which the vote-snatcher artfully dangles before him like carrots tied to a donkey's nose. At the ballot box he signs a paper to the effect that he abdicates his reason, and approves and consolidates a system of oppression and exploitation of himself and others.

A most stupid individual is this voter. The real power of the politician rests upon the fact that people recognise his authority without question. They rely on him instead of themselves. Even Mr. Fisher (Labour Premier), is reported to have said: "Politics is an excellent means of fooling the people."

Politicians sometimes throw a bone to the plebians, but this is because plutocracy fears the wolves of Socialism, Syndicalism, and Anarchism. The proletariat have better, quicker, and saner means of obtaining what they want. They should try to destroy, not conquer, parliament, which is past mending.

Reform of politics is useless. The elector should reform himself, and clear his brain of deep-rooted prejudices, and become a conscious person, knowing what he requires, and the correct method to obtain it. There is no danger of aban-

# To the South Coast Miners.

An Address by T. Silcocke.

No. II.

By labor all the monarchs of the world revel in luxury. By it the railways are built and the mechanical warrior that brings your capitalistic daily paper. By it the bread you eat is made and brought to your door.

All the machinery of production, distribution, and exchange were made from beginning to end by the strong arm of the worker. They are also operated by the worker when they come into use. Yet this nature's nobleman is robbed of two-thirds of what he produces.

It is the future slaves—the innocent children who suffer in your sectional strikes. That is one of the powers that force you back beaten. It is their starving appeal to you that makes you do the detestable act against your cause.

The coal owner does not worry about your children; he does not care if they want for food. Their wants is one of the powers he beats you with. His children are well fed and housed. They are educated in private schools and colleges, where your children have practically no hope of being educated. But their private schools and colleges are not built for the sons of honesty. They are built for those who come forth to beat you back to slavery.

They are bred and reared in an environment which encourages in them a belief in their superiority. How many clever men and women are among your children if they had equal opportunities with the children of the legal robber? Do not be sarcastic, worker. You have nothing to be sarcastic about. Remember that a few paltry moneybags are standing between you and your children's bread and butter.

Remember that they do not risk their lives in the blackholes of Illawarra. Remember that they draw huge dividends from the mineral you risk your lives to obtain.

Remember that the Capitalist class fought your forefathers tooth and nail for little except your get. Remember that they have fought against you throughout the ages. Remember that the Capitalist class induced you noble Australians to go and fight for them in South Africa. Remember how you were treated when the slaughter was over. Are you the better for conquering the brave Boers. No! When that human slaughter was over, and thousands of your fellows were left upon the battlefields, the Capitalists introduced the ignorant Chinaman as a cheaper medium for making profits.

Do not forget that the workers from whom you sprung, were shot down for striking in England—the "land of the free," two years ago. They will do the same with you and your sons when they have properly set the seeds of discipline. If you doubt this, look up your Conscript

doing politics to the Conservatives by abstention. Rather the contrary. Each conscious abstainer puts himself in revolt against the false dictatorship of Cabinets. Such persons count for more than the brainless voter. Indeed, even partial abstention by the people is a powerful weapon against class ministry, and renders the system difficult to carry on.

Fearing the danger of a strong anti-political party, ministers try to make voting compulsory. If the people in any numbers abstain, it is difficult to see how this law can be enacted. Efforts in the same direction in Austria have proved a dismal failure. The most they could do would be to penalize a few individuals, which might bring about the results the few politicians seek to avoid.

The fight of the proletariat and the revolutionary is on the industrial and intellectual field. The power to paralyse production is stronger than all the politicians, priests, and plutes put together. In the future, the elector will probably be looked upon as an ignorant and mentally demented individual, obsessed with the idea of delegating despots to oppress other people and misery, thus perpetuating error and misery.

The political system, like the religious, is built upon certain false bases, interwoven with prejudice and ignorance. Thus we have a colossal octopus resting on error.

Lord Macaulay severely criticised the politics of his day. He was very near the truth, when he wrote, possibly for the benefit of the stupid voter: "There is no slavery, but ignorance."

Act. Study it, and see if you can deny it.

The workers of China and Japan are fighting against the same Capitalist class that you are fighting against. Capitalism is world-wide. So is Labor. Their cause is your cause, for only Capitalists want war and make it.

China has over 20 Socialists in her parliament. Japan murders her Socialists as soon as they begin to teach. In every country they have done the same in the past. Now they are afraid as we are too strong, and they have lost their right of class education. It behoves you now to join the ranks of progress and get the true education you are entitled to.

The Capitalist class tries every possible means to blind you to the light of Socialism. Every notorious act is attributed to Socialists, even to your strikes. They fought against the right of "free speech" at Wollongong, and imprisoned Socialist teachers, but a wave of your indignation swept them aside.

The greatest scientists and thinkers believe in Socialism, but the crafty money-mongers do not allow you the means with which to purchase and study their works.

Pierpont Morgan, a king of parasites, died the other day, leaving £10,000,000. It is reported that he left some to charity. He was a good fellow to give back some of what he stole in dividends. Workers for Carnegie are some of the poorest paid workers of America, and it is said that Carnegie protected his works with galling guns during strikes. No wonder he is worth £10,000,000. No wonder that he now wants to cover himself with the cloak of charity!

The Capitalists of the South Coast adopt the same tactics with a little variation. The American Capitalists kept their slaves hungry by galling guns. You are kept hungry with Labor-made laws.

## AS OTHERS SEE US.

The astronomer on a far-off planet turned from a huge machine somewhat resembling our telescope and said to his audience: "I saw the Earth. Its oceans and its waterways are full of huge ships bristling with murderous cannon which they keep pointed towards each other, and for some unaccountable reason at intervals engage in a bloody struggle. Other ships full of people are racing across the oceans, and the shores are strewn with wreckage and the bodies of the dead. On land there is a perpetual war. Every city inland has barracks full of men ready to fight, and the streets are lined with police armed with clubs, irons and guns, which they use constantly. Riots and murder are prevalent all over the land. Men are shooting each other and tearing their fellows open with great knives fixed on the ends of rifles. Thousands are starving and freezing in the cold climates, while in the hot zones they are dying in swarms with fever and pestilence. In the country the peasants toil from dawn till darkness, and are poor, while in the city great lines of men are waiting for bread to be given them. The slums of the cities are awful to behold, and in them are the saddest sights our machine has yet shown us. As the earth revolves it shows the same never-ceasing panorama. In the study of the Earth it appears that a nation may cease fighting with another for a time, and workers, male and female, are set at the task of making commodities at a break-neck speed. When the country has piled up an enormous amount of the product of labour,—vastly more than they can consume,—they at once go to war with another nation and kill each other by the thousand. Then those workers who are not killed return to their labors and commence the piling up of surplus values again. The farce seems to have been going on for a long time, and shows no sign of diminution. I will see if I can find any good things on Earth, and at my next lecture will report to you."—"Cotton's Weekly," Canada.

The "Sydney Mail," a weekly journal, published by the proprietors of the "S.M. Herald," thus blesses the immigration policy of the Labor Party, and shows the landlords how it brings water to their mills: "If the increase in the population could be made more rapid than it is, then the increase in value would be still more rapid. All owners of land should remember this in connection with the immigration policy. It is of interest to note that there is one man, or one company, who last year had his lands assessed for land tax purposes at over a million sterling unimproved. We may say with little fear of contradiction that 100 years ago this land, now so valuable, was not worth £100. The added people has given it its vastly increased value." The logic of this statement ought to lead the "Mail" and "Herald" proprietary to advise the landlords to vote the Labor ticket.



## A.S.P. News & Notes.

### National Executive.

Branches can be represented by proxy delegates at the forthcoming annual Conference. The names of delegates should be forwarded at once to the undersigned.

The Annual Conference will take place on Monday, May 19. Further Business for Conference will be received up to Saturday, April 19.

Branches are requested to forward names of selected Candidates for the forthcoming Federal and State elections to the Administrative Council as soon as possible.

H. L. DENFORD,  
8 Stephen's Buildings, Windmill-St.  
Millers Point, Sydney

### SYDNEY.

#### MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS.

On Friday evening, May 2, May Day was celebrated by Sydney Socialists at the Concordia Hall. The fine hall was comfortably filled by comrades and friends who came to keep up Labors great festival day. The hall was tastefully decorated, while the platform setting of palms and ferns, with a large portrait of Karl Marx in the place of honor, was artistic and very effective.

Members of the International Socialist Club, of the Socialist Labor Party, and the Australian Socialist Party were present in creditable numbers and happy unity, a fact which augurs well for the future solidarity and success of International Socialism in Australia.

Comrade Blanc, Secretary of the International Socialist Club, acted as chairman, and in opening the proceedings drew attention to the international character of the May Day celebrations, and congratulated the comrades present upon their ability to unite in making such a grand success of the festival. That night they were in a magnificent hall, and he contended that there was no reason why Sydney Socialists should not have such a hall as their own. They could have such if they earnestly set about securing it, and he strongly urged them to take the matter up and build one. Socialism stood for the freedom of the human race and the overthrow of capitalism and militarism. Next day they would see 20,000 cadets marching through the streets of Sydney, a sight which he condemned and deplored in common with comrades in all parts of the world. In conclusion, Com. Blanc called upon the orchestra which rendered an overture.

The I.S. Club Liedertafel gave splendid male voice selections—"Comrades in Arms" and "The Socialists' March," and songs were rendered by Miss Cutterson, contralto; Miss Elsie Clancy, contralto; Miss Campbell, soprano, and Miss Tickener, soprano.

The "Quarrel Scene," from "Julius Caesar," was rendered by Messrs. Nelson and Norman Black, and Mr. Beckmann gave a musical novelty on piano and bells.

Miss Taylor, Balmuir, acted as accompanist, and the various items were received with warm and well-merited appreciation.

Comrade J. O. Moroney, Socialist Labor Party candidate for the Federal Senate, delivered an address in honor of May Day, and pointed to that day as the harbinger of the new society that is to be. May Day should have been celebrated on the First of May, and would have been but for the fact that no hall could be secured for that evening, and consequently, they were compelled to hold their festival on the 2nd. On Sunday there would be a further demonstration in Sydney Domain when speeches would be delivered in honor of Labor Day. It might be thought that in view of the fact that Europe was face to face with war on a grand scale, that the outlook for Socialism was not very bright, but when we surveyed the recent growth and spread of the teaching of Marx in all countries he thought they could say that the outlook was never brighter. Even China, which was supposed to be so far behind the times, was awake, and after studying the Works of Marx had returned over 20 Socialists to her first Parliament. Japan, the terror of some people, was rapidly advancing and assimilating western ideas was becoming subject to capitalism. Reverting to the

ket at the coming elections. Seeing that the Labor Party's immigration policy is so beneficial to the landlords it would be stark insanity for them to vote any other than the Labor ticket. But, of course, there would be no political sham fight unless some papers whooped for Liberalism and others for Laborism.

William R. Winspear, 115 Goulburn-st., Sydney.

ethics of Socialism, he said that Christians charged Socialists with being anti-religious, opposed to marriage, and in favor of destroying home life, but they were in favor of toleration and freedom for all beliefs, and they advocated Socialism because it would free women, strengthen marriage, and place home life above the poverty and misery generated by Capitalism. Comrade Moroney concluded a powerful and interesting address amidst sustained and hearty applause.

After the harmony dancing was kept up till midnight.

The celebration was an unqualified success and those who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

#### SUNDAY'S MAY DAY MEETING.

A combined demonstration of the Australian Socialist Party and the Socialist Labor Party, was held in the Sydney Domain on Sunday afternoon, May 4. A large and enthusiastic meeting was addressed by George Waite, I.W.W. Club (chairman), George Ostler, Socialist Labor Party, Federal Senatorial candidate, A. Rutherford, and Luke Jones, Australasian Socialist Party, and Mrs. Lorrimer, S.L.P.

Rain interrupted the proceedings, but notwithstanding the demonstration was a great success.

The meeting carried the following resolution: 1. "That the working class men and women assembled on this May Day, 1913, send our fraternal greetings to our fellow workers of all lands irrespective of color or creed, and protest against the unjust system of private ownership of the means of life, and production for profit, instead of for use." 2. "That this meeting further declares emphatically for the preservation of the world's peace, which is impossible under Capitalism, and militarism being necessary for the perpetuation of Capitalist system, and protests against the Labor Party conscripting the boys of Australia, and the streets of Sydney being handed over to the military for military processions with the sinister object of diverting the thoughts from the real issue, viz., security of peace by the establishment of Socialism."

#### OUR CONSCRIPT ARMY.

On Saturday, May 3, the streets of Sydney were handed over to the militarists and loyalists, who had organised two processions for the purpose of impressing their views on the unwary working class.

In the morning a procession was arranged in honor of his Highness, the Lord Cockburn, of the Military forces, and Governor-General of the Commonwealth, who had signified his intention of reviewing the grand march of cadets through the city in the afternoon.

Some weeks ago, His Majesty's representative, according to the loyal press, had been evicted from his palace in Sydney and had nowhere to lay his head, so that it was "up to us" to do him grand on this occasion in order to protest against this insult put upon the representative of King George.

Consequently, from ten in the morning motor cars began rushing excitedly towards the railway station, from Potts Point and other strongholds of the elect, to meet his Ex. at 11 a.m. The committee of management had expressed a wish that the business people of the city line the route of march with a good display of hunting, but little notice was taken of the few few, and very few places were decorated. However, this lack of loyal display and enthusiasm on the part of the small profit-hunters was made up for their "betters," who rushed about in their buzz-wagons, tooting and roaring as if the second coming of Christ was due.

Every large exploiter, every flash magnate, estate spider, rack-renter, mine salter, bogus company promoter, and stock-gambler seemed to be out and about with their women folk, and their cars and chariots were decorated with the flags of England, Germany, Italy, Russia, China, Japan, and other popular and happy-hunting grounds of the predatory plutocracy. Even their females' heads seemed swathed and hidden in international silks and satins to show the solidarity and internationality of capitalism and bogus patriotism.

In spite of all the furor, however, the entry of His Homeless Ex. was somewhat of a frost. Certainly, there were thousands of the working class along the route, but they came to stare and not to cheer. Probably they wondered why so much excitement and energy was wasted, and when a welcoming cheer was attempted at the railway station only a feeble wail went up from the motley crew above-mentioned. A few Trades Hall officials were present, and were seen

waving their hats and attempting to cheer, but their three time three was a hopeless effort to encourage the rank and file to demonstrate. The crowd simply wouldn't or couldn't rise to the occasion.

In the afternoon the grand march of cadets took place, and the same lack of enthusiasm was apparent. One of the largest and quietest crowds ever seen in Sydney filled the streets, but there was no cheering or display of enthusiasm except at swaggler clubs and hotels, where the balconies were lined by cunning conspirators who see in the Conscript army a safeguard of their interests.

As for the boys, who are too young yet to apprehend the danger of the trap prepared for them, one could not help feeling sorry for them. They have not yet learnt how little they count, and have to learn in many harsh ways what inconsiderable trifles their lives are deemed to be by those who rule over them. Some day, the war now being prepared for them will be forced upon them, and they will have to starve, and remain wet and exposed to pelting hail and rain for days together, sleeping in mud, tormented by vermin, and visited by death in ditches. They will then live to curse those who have condemned them to rot with enteric and dysentery, with lung complaints and fevers, and to be torn and mangled with splinters of shells, and with bullets in their chests and stomachs.

The fathers and mothers who saw their sons marching in their battalions, and felt a glow of pride at the cheers their boys received from those on the Macquarie Street balconies, have no idea what their lads will look like in a trench on a wet night when the wind is howling, a bitter gale in their face and they are crouching up to their hips in slush and water. They never picture him lying disabled on his back on a grassy or muddy battlefield with a hail of Maxim bullets buzzing low above him, or at the point of danger beyond a line of outposts on sentry duty with his ears strained to catch the least sound, and his eyes staring into the darkness in search of signs of the approaching enemy. With his nerves racked, his stomach empty, his eyes filled with water, and his soul with resentment, he will then be apt to think very hardly of those who doomed him to a soldier's life, and those who were older than he, and who should have known better and protected him from it.

If any such pictures were before the minds of those who witnessed the display they gave no sign, but simply viewed the procession stolidly. That the popular mind was as much impressed as the military authorities hoped is doubtful, for at the saluting base, where the representative of Capitalism stood, touching his cocked hat like an automaton, there was an absence of enthusiasm, and a running fire of criticism.

William R. Winspear, 115 Goulburn-st., Sydney

#### Patriotism.

Raise statues with uplifted swords  
To awe the jingo clown;  
Mint medals of defiant lords,  
And halo the crown.  
Crown flagless patriots of peace,  
With thorns whoever frown;  
Politie hatred must not cease  
While blood speckled gods look down.  
Wreath olive-leaves for martyrs brows,  
Hide carefully each sting  
Till Peace and Vengeance mingle vows  
Draw lances for the King.

OLIVER GORDON.

#### An Epitaph.

HERE LIE

The Mortal Remains of  
**JOHN SMITH,**

Who worked hard and died poor, supported  
through all the Trials and Vicissitudes of Life  
By the Reflection that He Was the Proud Inheritor  
Of a Share

In the Glorious Empire upon which the Sun  
Never Sets.

At his Death He was placed in this Grave, and  
His Share of the Glorious Empire was Reverently  
Shovelled in on Top of Him,

So that

He Came By His Own in the End.

—Forward.

#### Newtown.

Election Notice.

Comrade TOM WALSH having been Nominated by this branch to contest the Federal Electorate of Cook all comrades and sympathisers are asked to attend his meetings to assist in every way to secure his return.

Socialists and others against compulsory military training are asked to assist by sending along their contributions to our fund to contest Cook Federal electorate.

A. DUFFIELD,

Secretary.

Chalder-St., Marrickville.

When you have finished with this paper, pass it on to a friend.

#### Omissions.

On page 2 of this issue the notes and comments under the heading "Some Amusing Views" were by William R. Winspear, 115 Goulburn-St., whose signature was inadvertently omitted.

The article on page 3 entitled "Maniacs I have met" was by "Ajax" whose pen name was also accidentally left out.

#### International Socialist Club.

The Monthly Meeting of Club Members will be held on Sunday, May 11.

Business: Notice of Motion that Members' Subscriptions be doubled.

Election of two Members of the Executive.  
O. BLANC, Sec.

#### SYDNEY BRANCH A.S.P.

The General Business Meeting of the Branch will be held on Thursday, May 13, at Queen's Hall, Pitt-st. Business: Election of Conference Delegate.

C. WHITMORE, Sec.

#### Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged £44 10s 3d. Collected at Club Social 11s. W. Layley, 10s. B.B. 3s. Total £45 14s 3d.

## "The Crime of Conscription"

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#### To Correspondents.

Owing to increasing pressure on our space we are compelled to hold over several important articles for future issues.

Contributors writing for publication should write in ink, on one side of the paper only, and with a fair space between words and lines. The paper used for this purpose should not be larger than letter paper, and thin enough to avoid getting us fined for overweight. Mark the package "Press Matter Only."

Branch Secretaries should send brief fortnightly reports or short comments on current events.

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O. BLANC, Secretary.

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#### Sydney Branch,

Australasian Socialist Party.

Meetings of the above branch are held at Queen's Hall every alternate Thursday, at 7.45 p.m.

Propaganda meetings held every Saturday evening at corner of Bathurst and George Streets, Sunday afternoon, Domain, Sunday evening, Market and Park Streets at 7.30 p.m.

Cecil Whitmore, Secretary.

115 Goulburn Street, Sydney.

#### Melbourne Branch

Australasian Socialist Party,

47 Victoria Street, Melbourne.

Lectures held at above address every Sunday evening at 7.30. Meetings at Smith-St., Fitzroy, and Markets, South Melbourne, every Friday evening. Members' Dance held every Saturday, commencing at 8 p.m.

J. R. WILSON, Secy.

#### Perth Branch.

Australasian Socialist Party,

Business Meetings held at Ellis's Coffee Palace, Wellington-St., first Thursday in every month at 8 p.m. Propaganda Meetings held every Friday evening at the Railway Station at 8 p.m., and Sunday afternoon at Esplanade at 3 p.m.

C. PARKINSON, Sec. Pro. Tem.

Printed and published by Henry Edmund Holland, for the Australasian Socialist Party, at 115 Goulburn-street, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.